

REMARKS

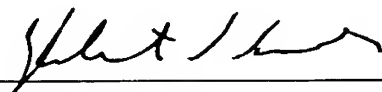
Entry of the foregoing and prompt and favorable consideration of the application are respectfully requested.

The claims have been amended to eliminate multiple dependency and delete the reference numerals and to place them in better condition for U.S. patent practice. These amendments are not intended, nor should they be construed, to narrow the scope of any of the amended claims.

In the event that there are any questions relating to the Preliminary Amendment, or the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney concerning such questions so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Application No. Unassigned
Attorney's Docket No. 004501-631
Mark-up of Claims - Page 1 of 3

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--3. (Amended) The electrical switching device as claimed in claim 1 [or 2], [in which] wherein the short-circuit current limiter is a fuse link [(11)].

4. (Amended) The switching device as claimed in claim 1 [or 2], [in which] wherein the short-circuit current limit [(17)] can be uploaded electrically, and the evaluation device [(7)] is designed to transmit a second tripping signal [(18)] to the short-circuit current limiter [(17)] in the event of large overcurrents.

5. (Amended) The electrical switching device as claimed in claim 1, [2 or 3, in which] wherein, the short-circuit current limiter is a power breaker [(17)].

6. (Amended) The electrical switching device as claimed in claim 1, [one of the preceding claims, in which] wherein the short-circuit current limiter is a PTC thermistor [(16)].

9. (Amended) The electrical switching device as claimed in claim 1, [one of the preceding claims, in which] wherein the evaluation device [(7)] is designed for receiving and evaluating signals from a first current sensor [(5)], which detects the current through the current path [(8)], and from a second current sensor, which detects a current through a

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second current path, by comparing them with one another and opening the microrelay switch [(1)] in response to a result of the evaluation.

10. (Amended) The electrical switching device as claimed in claim 1, [one of claims 1-8, in which] wherein the current sensor [(5)] is a total current sensor which detects a total current through the current path [(8)] and through at least one second adjacent current path, and the evaluation device [(7)] is designed for receiving and evaluating a signal from the total current sensor and for opening the microrelay switch [(1)] in response to that signal.

11. (Amended) The electrical switching device as claimed in claim 1, [one of the preceding claims, in which] wherein at least one current sensor [(5)] is part of the switching device and is in the form of a Hall sensor.

12. (Amended) The electrical switching device as claimed in claim 1, [one of the preceding claims, in which] wherein the microrelay switch, the evaluation device and, possibly, the Hall sensor or sensors are each integrated as chips on a circuit board.

13. (Amended) The electrical switching device as claimed in claim 1, [one of the preceding claims, in which] wherein the microrelay switch [(1)] and the evaluation device [(7)] are integrated on one chip [(6)].

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14. (Amended) The electrical switching device as claimed in claim 11, [also in conjunction with any further one of the preceding claims, in which] wherein the evaluation device [(7)] and the Hall sensor or sensors [(5)] are integrated on a chip [(6)].

15. (Amended) The electrical switching device as claimed in claim 11, [also in conjunction with any further one of the preceding claims, in which] wherein the microrelay switch [(1)], the evaluation device [(7)] and the Hall sensor or sensors [(5)] are integrated on one chip [(6)].

16. (Amended) The electrical switching device as claimed in claim 1, [one of the preceding claims, in which] wherein an electronic response monitoring device [(7)] is integrated, with the microrelay switch [(1)], on one chip [(6)].--

17. (Amended) The electrical switching device as claimed in claim 1, [one of the preceding claims, in which] wherein a timer circuit is integrated, with the microrelay switch [(1)], on one chip [(6)].

18. (Amended) An electric motor switching and protection system having an electrical switching device as claimed in claim 1 [one of the preceding claims].